



THE WASATCH JUNCTION

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLDEN SPIKE CHAPTER

Railway & Locomotive Historical Society

2018

Vol. 22, Issue #6



Board Members for 2018

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**Next Two Meetings: Nov. 16, 2018 at 12 noon, Two Bit Cafe, 25th street
Dec 1, 2018 at Union Station Gallery 51. Joint
Christmas party with Hostlers Model RR Club. Must make reservations with Mike Murphy mmurphy@q.com or telephone 801-394-4952
before Nov. 29. Cost is \$20 prepaid.**

Meeting notes for Sept. 15, 2018

Meeting was held at the Two Bit Cafe at noon

Minutes of August meeting were reviewed

Treasurer's report: We spent \$150 on two applications related to charity registration so that our chapter can receive government grant money. This process has now been completed.

Misc funds spent on nuts and bolts and the newsletter.

Balance as of Sept. \$13,316.74

223 Report: Notes provided by Steve Jones were published in the Sept/Oct newsletter.

The deck of the tender has been secured with rivet bolts.

The result of grant applications were received. The grant to repair the shop door structure was approved. But the grants to update our 223 historical display and the fundraiser using souvenir rivets was not approved. It was suggested we could make our own rivet souvenirs with little labeled gift boxes and a supply of rivets.

Lee Secrist is contacting the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden Colorado to see if he can obtain tech specs on the 223. John Barrett said he was going to be visiting in the area and could stop in at the museum and see what he can find.

We need to find a vendor for sand blasting of the frame & tender. Can we rent one or hire a service?

Meeting Notes for October 20

Minutes of the September meeting were reviewed

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$14,040.20
\$135 received from R&LHS Friends Campaign

Steve Tasker is coordinating on getting the shop door repaired. Jerod, head custodian at the museum, will work with Ogden City.

American Blast looked at the tender and frame. They'll get a proposal for doing the sand blasting by Monday, October 22.

Crew members Vern Day and John Barrett are working on welding repair on the frame and boiler saddle both cosmetic and structural.

There is a request in to the Colorado Rail Museum to research on specs for the 223.

Lee Secrist is working on wood covers for the piston openings which are needed prior to sand blasting.

Lee Witten reported on the convention plans. John Atherton asked that we try to get more rooms, particularly 20 rooms for the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library in St. Louis who asked to join up with us for the convention.

If anyone wants to check on the latest plans and activities for the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike in Ogden, go to spike150.org on the web.

We need to contact Heber Valley RR on their invitation to ride their new business car.

223 Project Report

A number of advancements in the 223 reconstruction effort has occurred the past few months. The deck of the tender has been secured. Below, retired project manager Maynard Morris pays a visit to the shop and inspects the tender.



Other work involved some repair welding on the saddle of the frame where bolt holes had been damaged.





Painting the Tender: The 223 crew has reached a milestone...painting the tender. Above the wood decking is being masked in preparation for sand blasting.



The tender was rolled back inside to await painting. A large



Temporary tracks were laid and the tender rolled out onto the platform. American Blast and Restoration was contracted to prepare the surface of the tender for painting.



Saturday Nov. 10, a plastic shroud was put up around the tender and the primer coat was applied that afternoon



Scott Pitman and Joshua Perry apply the stencils after the primer coat on Sunday Nov 11



After the stencils were removed, the tender has been transformed. Great job, Joshua and Scott.



During the sand blasting operation the previous week, the crew decided to rearrange the "furniture" and move the cab from the middle of the shop to a better location behind the tender.



Chairman's Message

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and the members and volunteers of the Golden Spike Chapter have a lot to be thankful for. This past weekend we reached a major milestone of completing the painting and lettering of the tender tank. Scott Pitman and Joshua Perry had their hands on the paint guns but every one of you had a part in achieving this so Thank You for all your efforts throughout the years.

Don't forget our invitation to the Hostlers' Christmas Party. Lee Witten forwarded the invitation to everyone recently. I hope you can join us because it is always a great event.

Planning activities are ramping up for the 150th anniversary of the driving of the golden spike. Lee Witten is our liaison with national and is working with the Spike150 planning groups for the Golden Spike Chapter to host the annual members' meeting during this celebration. I'm sure that Lee will be publishing more details. We have had to almost double the number of rooms originally anticipated to accommodate the number of people interested.

Sometimes it is the seemingly little things that make a big difference. They are also sometimes the things that we forget to thank our volunteers and members for doing. Jay Hudson has been taking the lead on maintaining the bios of our members and volunteers. The last couple of weeks I've caught Jay in the middle of interviewing several new people and getting caught up on profiling some folks who have worked with us for a long time. Thank You, Jay. You make a difference that you can see reflected in the faces of visitors when they look through the book and see the great variety of backgrounds that our members and volunteers have.

John Barrett and Vern Day have been fabricating repairs on the saddle and front of the locomotive frame. That work is nearly completed. When it is done it is the last step prior to having the frame sand blasted and prepared for painting. American Blast and Restoration assisted us with the sand blasting for the tender tank and did a fine job. Thank you Kelly and team for this great work! We expect to continue this activity for the frame and smaller parts at their shop which will avoid the mess in the Trainmen's building.

We are in early discussions with an organization who may be able to assist us with most of the machining work that will be necessary to get the wheelsets and running

gear operational again. It's too early to announce anything but this could be a very exciting way to end this year. We hope to meet with this organization in the next few weeks and determine how we can move forward together.

Recently, we have become aware of negotiations between Ogden City and the State of Utah concerning the ownership of 223. One of the volunteers at Union Station did some research in the Utah State department of History archives and found a document confirming that 223 was Donated to the Utah State Railroad Museum and that the Golden Spike Chapter was going to be doing the restoration. See <https://heritage.utah.gov/apps/history/findaids/C01583/C1583.xml#a9>. Hopefully, this will put to bed the question of who owns the locomotive. We anxiously await any status updated from Ogden City. Lee Witten has asked a museum staff member to investigate if this treasure chest of historical information can be digitized and made a part of the archives in the Union Station library.

This would be a good time to remind everyone to visit our GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/D-RGW223>.

A gentle reminder that national and chapter dues are due in the near future. You can download the form from the R&LHS national web site <http://rlhs.org/Membership/index.shtml>.

Mike Burdette has had health problems for many years and had to drop out of the chapter activities quite some time ago. He is currently a resident at the Veterans Home in Ogden, UT <https://veterans.utah.gov/ogden-veterans-home/>. Unfortunately, he is suffering from advanced stage Alzheimer's. Mike was instrumental in the establishment of the Golden Spike Chapter and in many activities supporting the Utah State Railroad Museum and Ogden Union Station museums. We certainly appreciate all that he did and miss seeing him at all of our meetings and work sessions. If you have the opportunity visit with him and thank him for everything he has done for the Golden Spike Chapter and Ogden Union Station.

Our mission of seeing the 223 restored to operation and being involved with all of the other restoration and railroad heritage activities here at Ogden Union Station takes both commitment and money. I ask each and every one of you to get involved with helping the Golden Spike Chapter move into the future. Become active in the organization and help keep that whistle blowin'.